



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty. Dkt. No. 076326-0222

3616

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Applicant: Gerhard KLINGAUF, et al
Title: SEAT BELT FORCE LIMITER
Appl. No.: 10/026,962
Filing Date: 12/27/2001
Examiner: Peter C. English
Art Unit: 3616

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Submitted herewith on a modified Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to applicant in order to comply with applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98.

The submission herewith of any document is not intended as an admission either that such document constitutes competent prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Applicant does not waive the right to take appropriate action to antedate any document that does not constitute a statutory bar and that is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application, or to otherwise remove such a document as a competent reference.

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The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

A copy of the European Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner. The D5 document corresponds to the D4 document, the D6 document corresponds to the D1 document. The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §603).

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialled copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

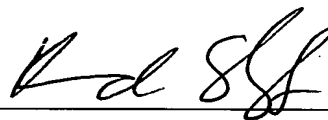
Respectfully submitted,

Date

8/14/2003

FOLEY & LARDNER
3000 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007
Telephone: (202) 672-5300
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By



Howard N. Shipley
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 39,370